

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

OIC-02 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 AS-01 /071 W

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FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6983

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTREAL 1877

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJECT: ICAO: ELECTION NEW COUNCIL PRESIDENT

REF: A. MONTREAL 1831

B. MONTREAL 1829

C. MONTREAL 1732

D. MONTREAL 1621

1. DWEMOH/GHANA CALLED ON ARRIVAL MONTREAL AND CAME TO BRUNCH AT RESIDENCE NOVEMBER 16, BEFORE MEETING WITH FOUR AFRICAN REPS IN AFTERNOON. TWO-HOUR PERSONAL DISCUSSION BROUGHT OUT FOLLOWING.

2. DWEMOH WROTE BINAGHI JULY INDICATING POSSIBILITY HIS CANDIDACY PRESIDENT. BINAGHI CABLED RESPONSE THAT THERE WAS ONE SERIOUS CANDIDATE FAVORED BY CLEAR MAJORITY COUNCIL, AND NO OTHER CANDIDACIES WOULD HAVE CHANCE. BINAGHI THEN WROTE DWEMOH SAYING HE HOPED NOTHING WOULD HAPPEN TO JEOPARDIZE THEIR "PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP." DWEMOH SAID IT WAS THAT EARLY EXCHANGE THAT PROMPTED HIM TO ASSUME COUNCIL WAS PARTY TO "SHENANIGANS." (SEE REFTEL D.) FYI: NO REPEAT NO COUNCIL MEMBERS INCLUDING US AWARE LETTER/TELEGRAM EXCHANGE. END FYI.

3. DWEMOH'S FILING WAS DELAYED IN MINISTRIES/ GHANA. HE AGREES
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LATENESS CANDIDACY WAS UNFORTUNATE AND HE WOULD RECEIVE ONLY

FEW VOTES. HE PLANS LET HIMSELF BE NOMINATED AND HE PERSONALLY WILL GIVE WITHDRAWAL STATEMENT TO COUNCIL. USREP SUGGESTED BEFORE VOTE WOULD BE GOOD CHOICE.

4. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT ANOTHER "18-YEAR TERM" WITH KOTAITE/PRESIDENCY AND SAID SOME REORGANIZATION OF TWO POSITIONS SEEMED INDICATED. HE WAS NOT AWARE SWEDEN'S "ROTATION" STATEMENT ON TENURE (REFTEL B).

5. DWEMOH OBVIOUSLY HAD NOT EVEN THOUGHT OF POSSIBLE SYG CANDIDACIES -- AND SAID SO. WHEN USREP ASKED IF HE PLANNED TO BE A CANDIDATE, HE GAVE IMMEDIATE UNQUALIFIED "NO." USREP SAID THAT THERE WERE RUMORS THAT DEVELOPING NATIONS INTENDED PUT CANDIDATE IN SYG (AS WELL AS KOTAITE IN PRESIDENCY), AND THAT MAJOR AVIATION STATES INSIST ON BEING REPRESENTED IN SECGENSHIP. HE REPLIED WITHOUT RESERVATION THAT THIS WAS THE WAY IT SHOULD BE. USREP SAID GENERAL FEELING WAS THAT SYG SHOULD NOT BE FRENCH-SPEAKING IF KOTAITE IN PRESIDENCY (FRENCH-SPEAKING). (LATER DWEMOH MENTIONED PIRSON, FORMER BELGIAN COUNCIL REP BUT IMMEDIATELY RULED HIM OUT HIMSELF BECAUSE FRENCH-SPEAKING.)

6. ONLY OTHER COUNTRY MENTIONED WAS PAKISTAN; DWEMOH SAID THAT GHANA HAD ASKED GOP BILATERAL TEAM IN ACCRA LAST MONTH FOR SUPPORT PRESIDENCY. WHEN HE CONTACTED PAK COUNCIL REP MONTREAL, HOWEVER, HE WAS ADVISED THAT PAKISTAN HAD FIRM POSITION FOR KOTAITE SINCE SEPTEMBER.

7. DWEMOH ASKED STATUS DIR AIR TRANS BUR VACANCY. USREP SAID WILL BE A READVERTISED. FYI: DWEMOH GOES TO ITA SYMPOSIUM/ PARIS EVENING NOVEMBER 19. HE MAY KNOW THAT BESSE (DIR-GEN ITA), FORMER ATB DIRECTOR INTERESTED RETURNING MONTREAL. END FYI.

8. DWEMOH SAID THAT IT HAD BEEN DECIDED DEFINITELY THAT GHANA WILL STAND FOR ELECTION TO COUNCIL AT 1977 ASSEMBLY. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT THIS WOULD BE "WORKED OUT" CONSIDERING NIGERIA'S COUNCIL SEAT AND ENGLISH/FRENCH-SPEAKING AFRICAN REPRESENTATION.

9. FYI: DWEMOH EXPRESSED GREAT PLEASURE WITH US/GOG BILATERAL INITIATED WASHINGTON LAST WEEK. END FYI.
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QPM DWEMOH "COOL" -- SAID RE PRESIDENCY "TIME HAD NOT COME" AND THERE WAS NO NEED "FORCING." FYI: USREP HIGH ON DWEMOH. SUGGEST CULGIVATION BY EMBASSY ACCRA AND SERIOUS CONSIDERATION IF HE REAPPEARS AS CANDIDATE PRESIDENT/COUNCIL OR ASSEMBLY (HE WILL). HE PROPOSED 10-10-10 ON COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP IN LAST ASSEMBLY, AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH USREP BEFORE ASSEMBLY. END FYI.

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